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Managing Water in the West

MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

May 10, 2012

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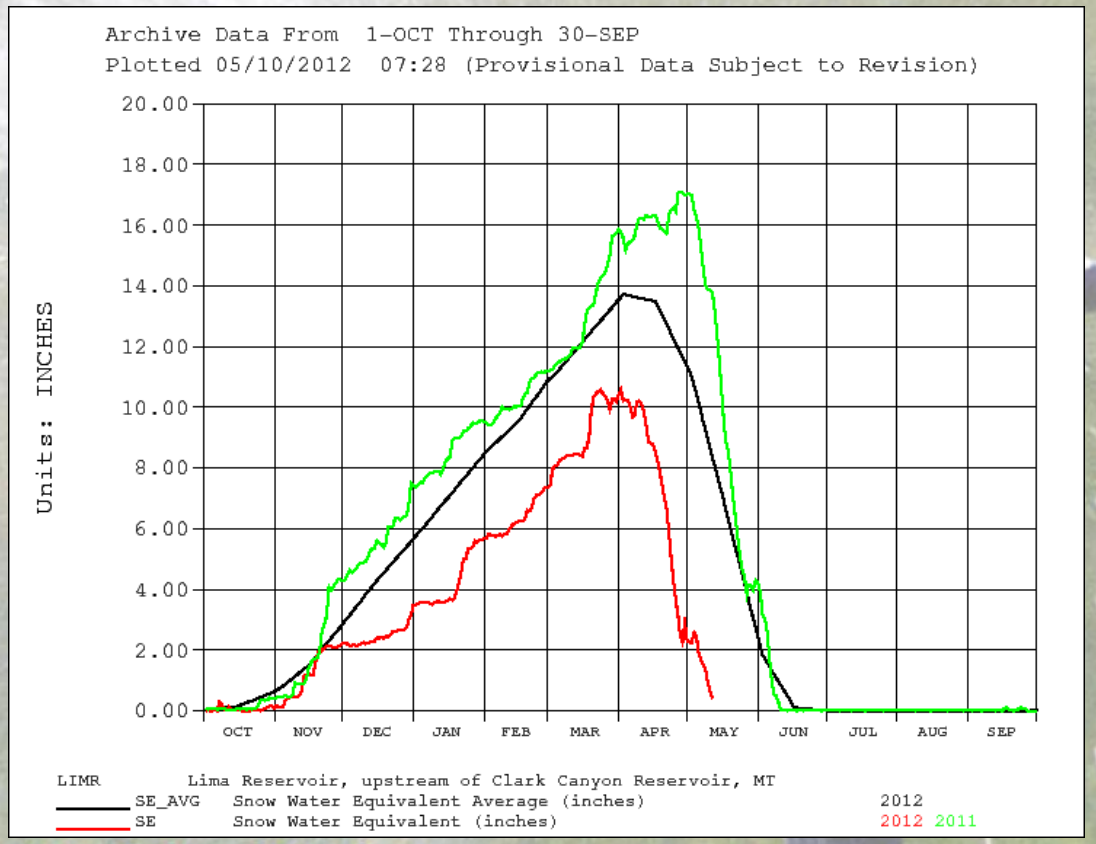
Lima Reservoir

Snowpack @ 5% of average



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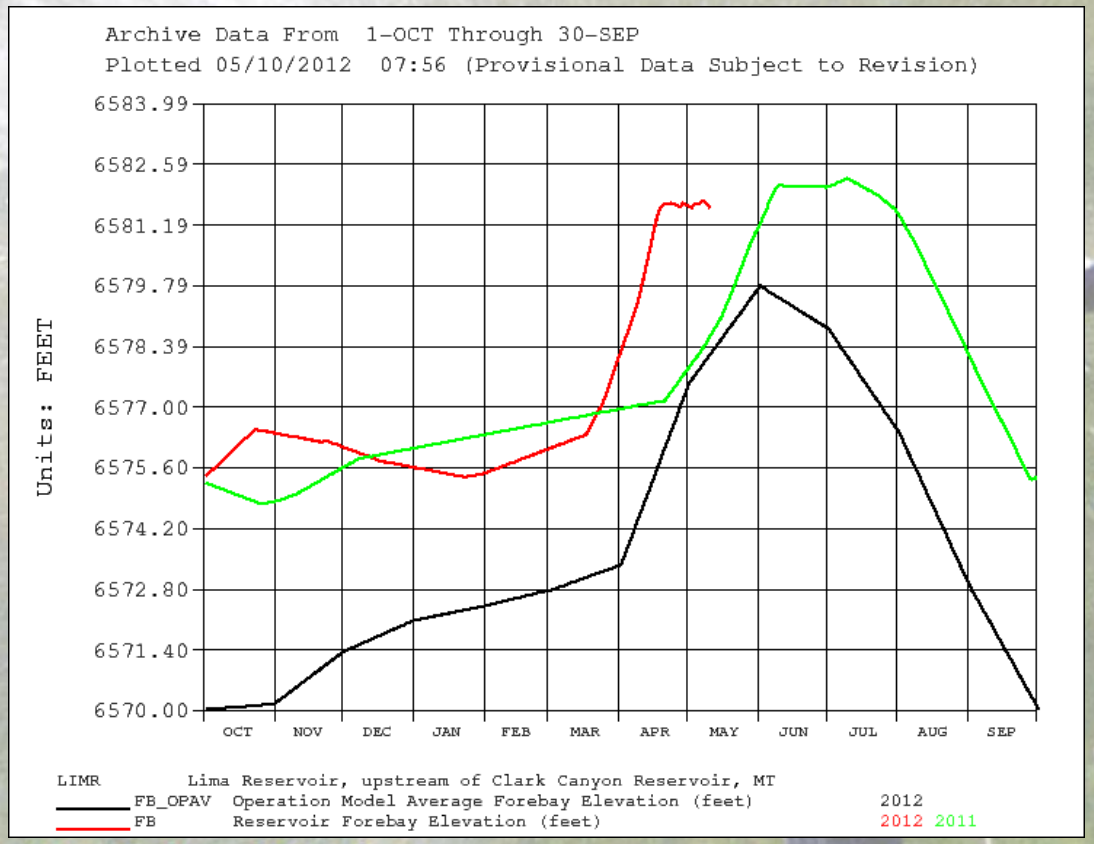
Lima Reservoir

- **Inflows to Lima are currently above average**
- **Storage @ 130% of average & 91% full**
- **Releases are being maintained at 180 cfs**
- **Water supply outlook looks favorable for water users to receive a full water supply In 2012**



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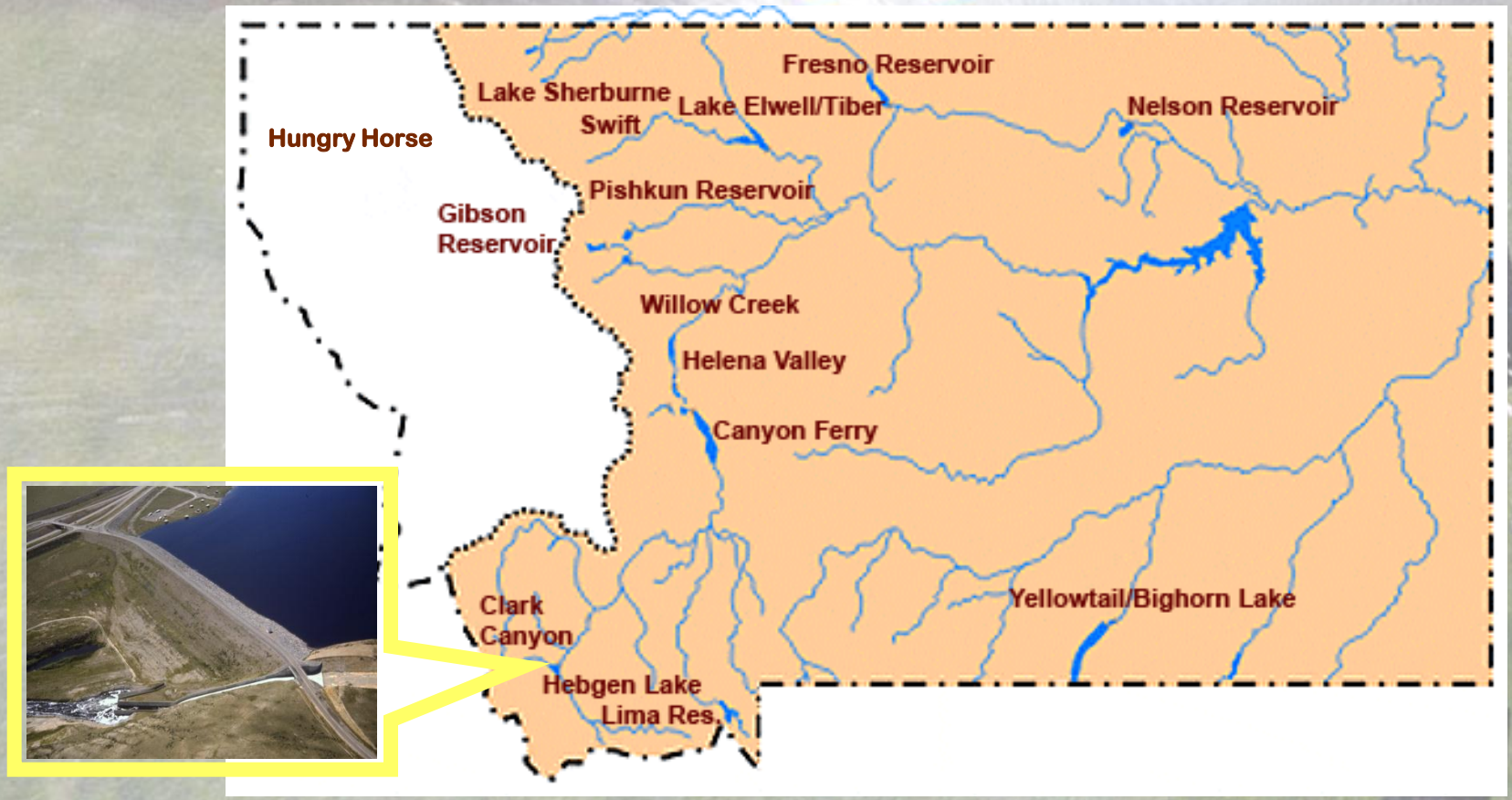

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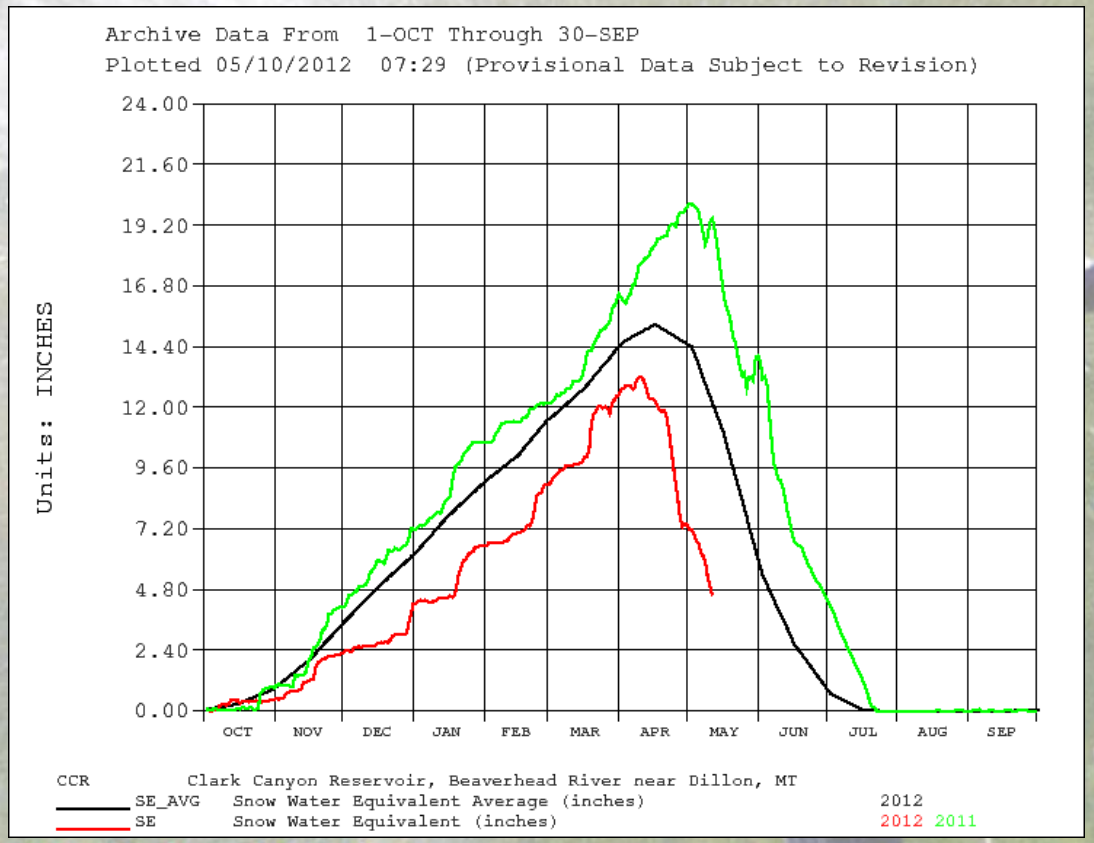
Clark Canyon Reservoir

Snowpack @ 37% of average



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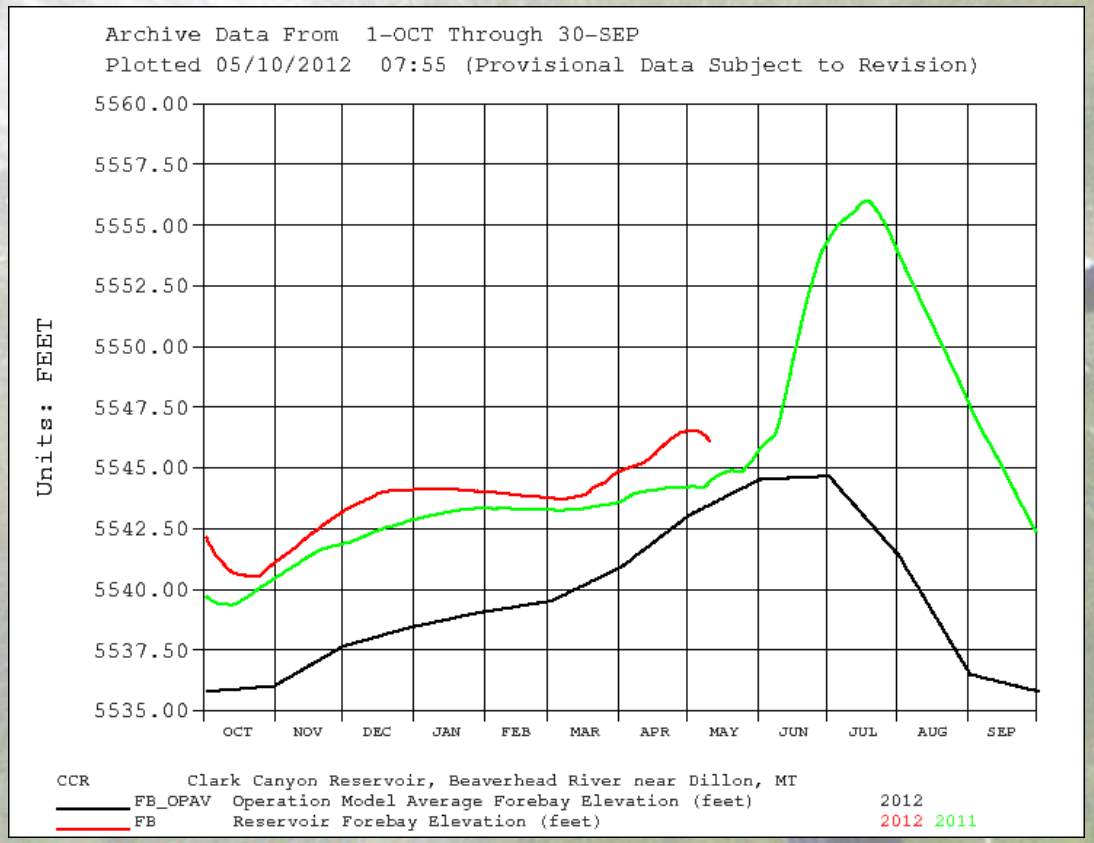
Clark Canyon Reservoir

- **Inflows to Clark Canyon are 45% of average**
- **Storage @ 108% of average, 100% full, & 1.7 ft or 8,800 af higher than last year**
- **Releases are being maintained at 525 cfs, causing the reservoir to slowly decrease**
- **Water supply outlook is favorable for EBID & CCWSC to receive full water supply in 2012**



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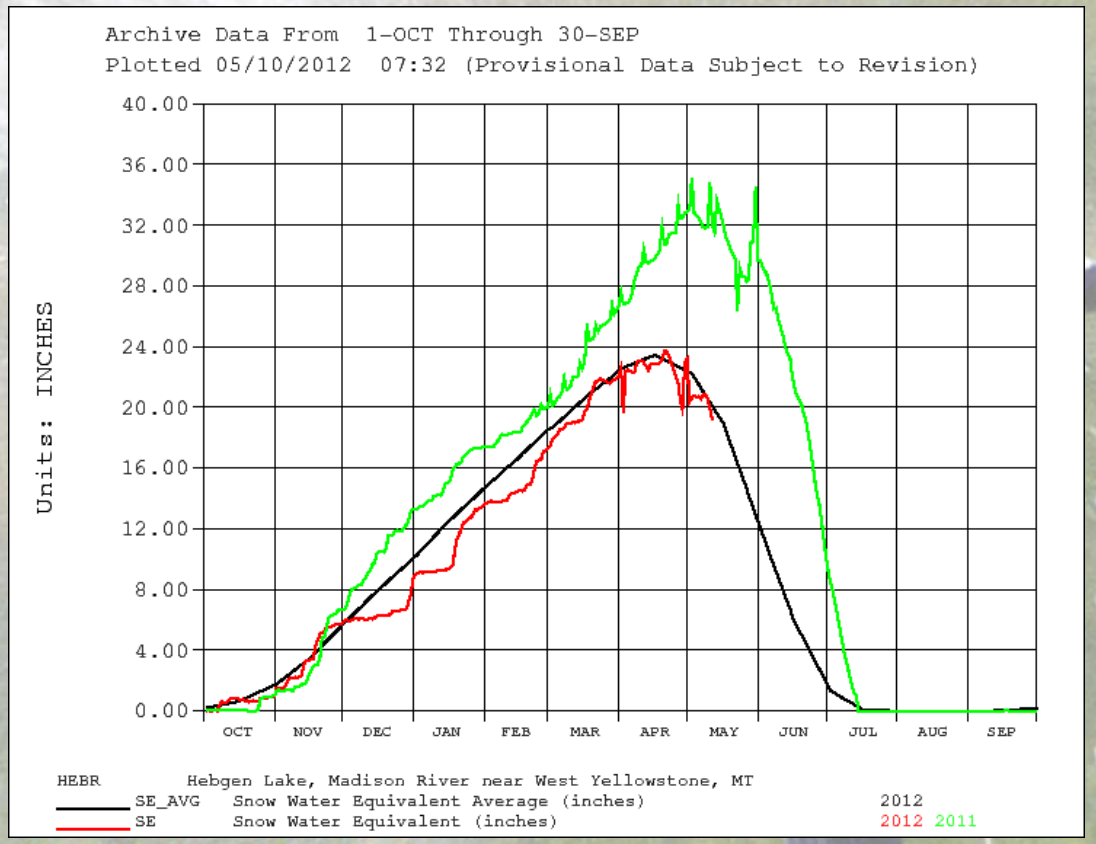
Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

Snowpack @ 95% of average



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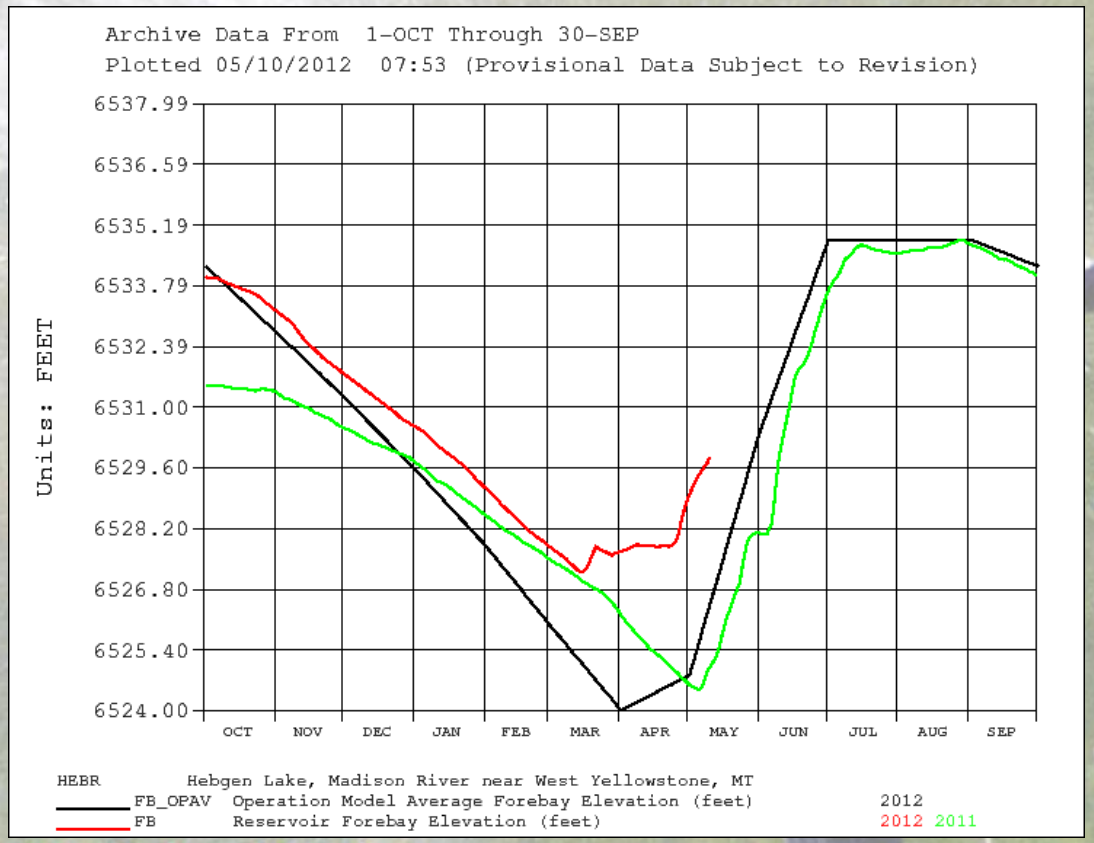
Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

- **Currently releasing 1,110 cfs to Madison River**
- **Storage @ 113% of average, 84% full, & 4.9 ft or 54,100 af higher than last year**
- **Reservoir is currently @ elevation at 6529.85 & is expected to slowly increase**
- **Water supply outlook is good & reservoir is expected to fill**



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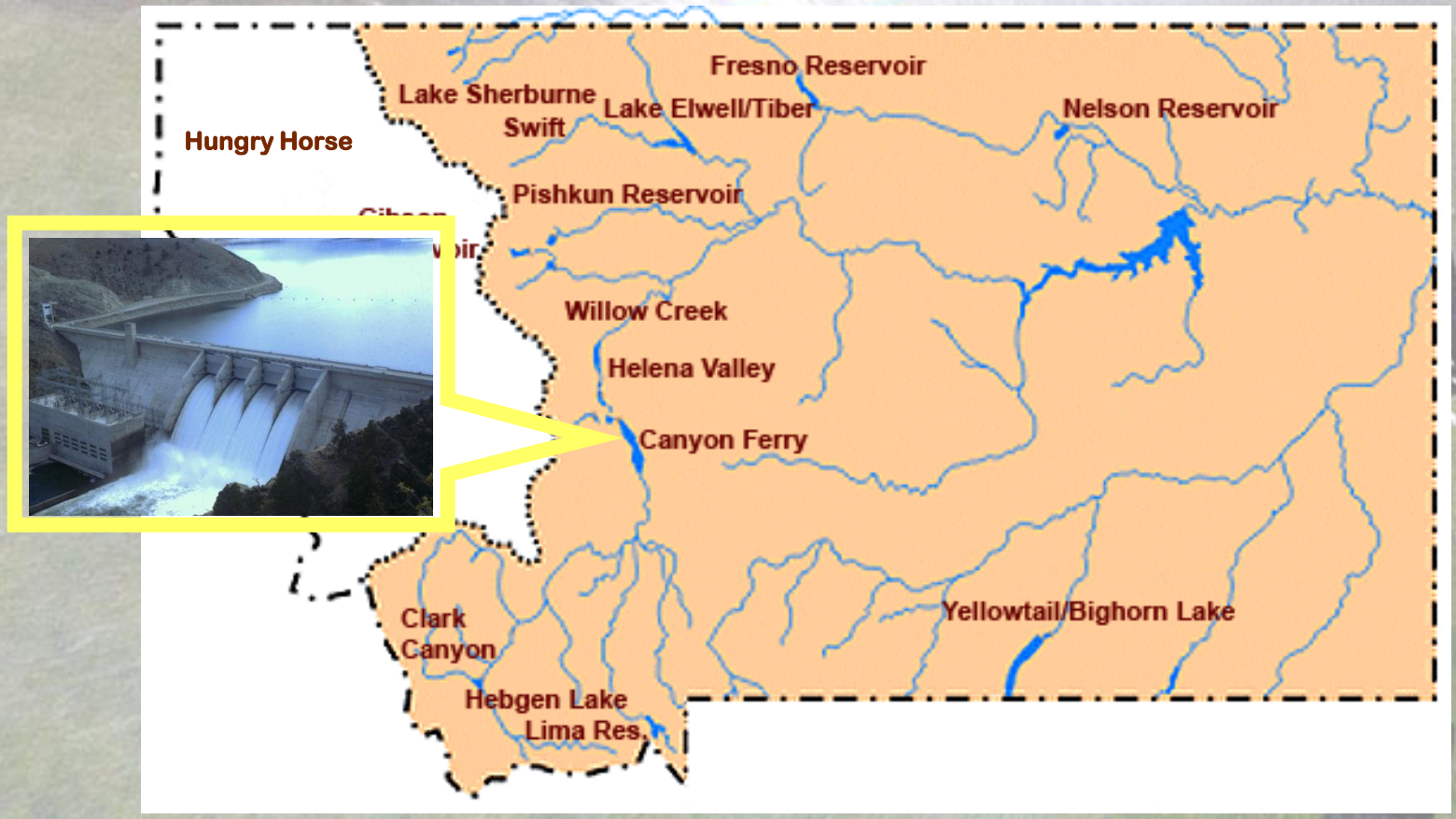

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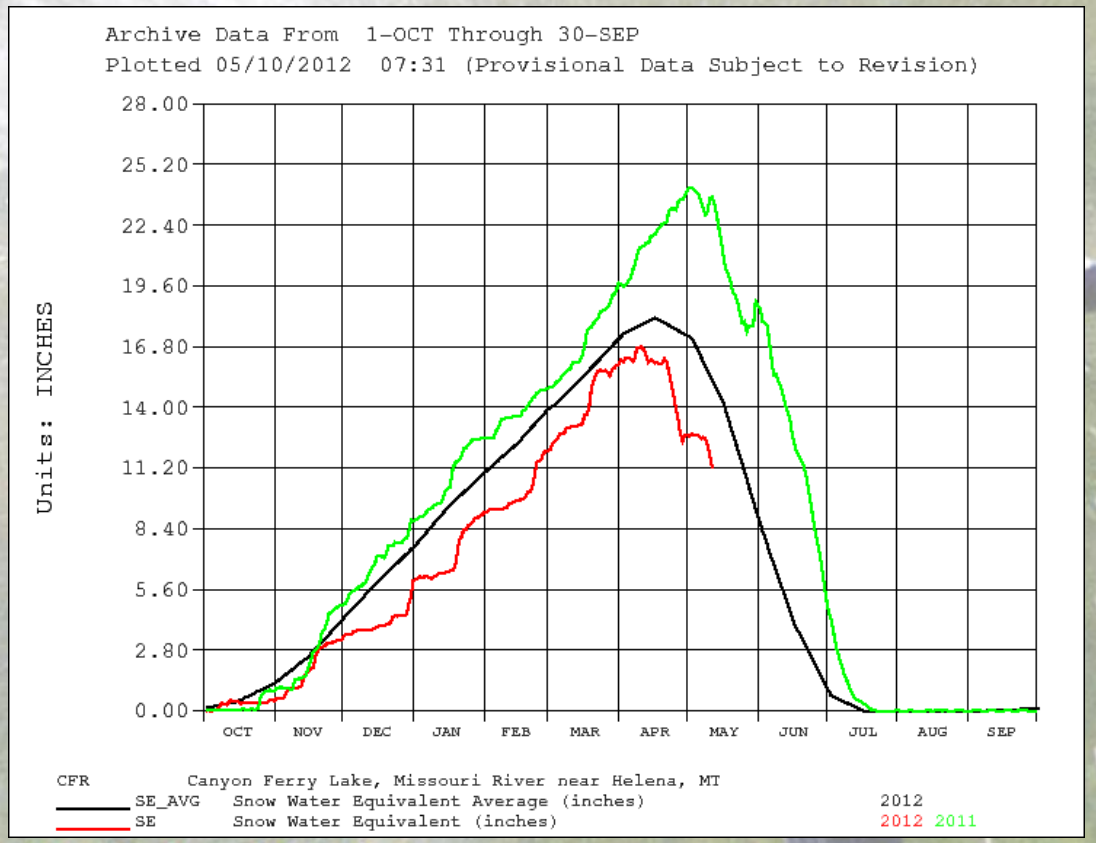
Canyon Ferry Reservoir

Snowpack @ 74% of average



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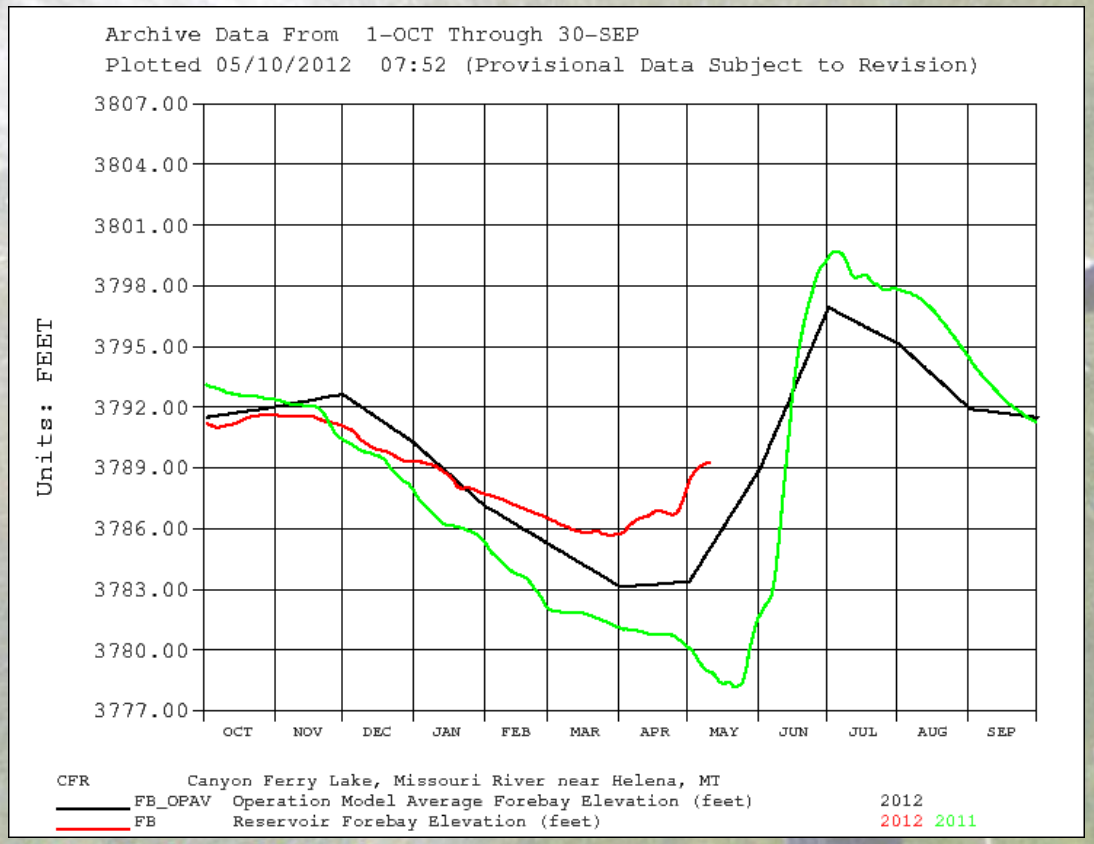
Canyon Ferry Reservoir

- **Inflows @ 92% of average**
- **Storage @ 109% of average, 87% full, & 10.3 ft higher than last year**
- **Releases to the Missouri River are being maintained near 5,400 cfs**
- **Expect storage to fill to normal full pool by late May or early June**
- **Water supply outlook is favorable for maintaining releases above 4,100 cfs all year**



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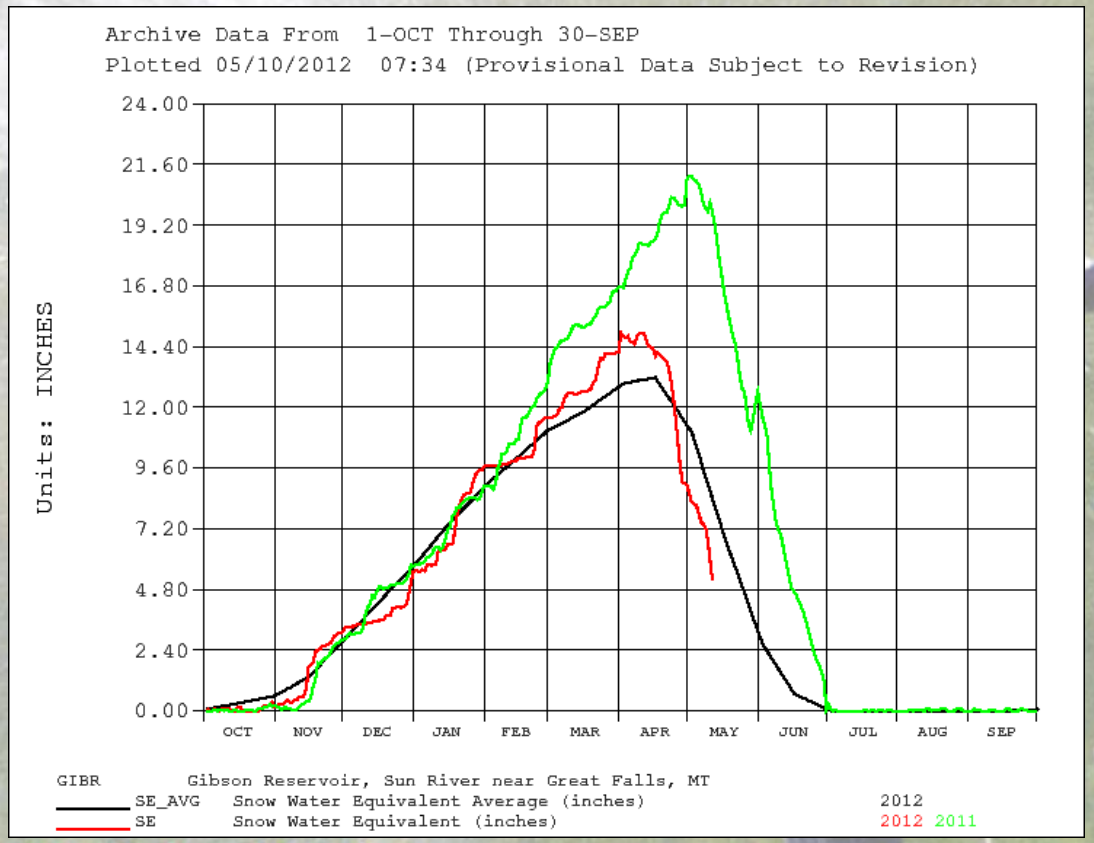
Gibson Reservoir

Snowpack @ 62% of average



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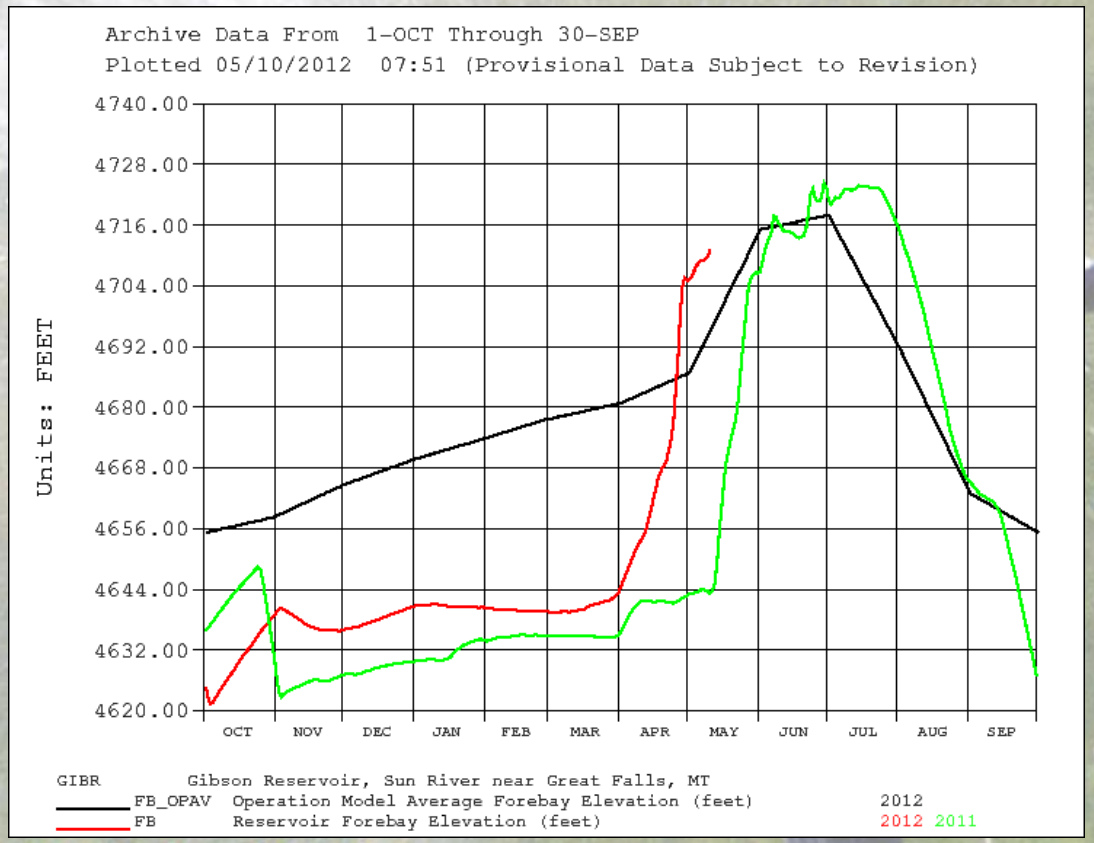
Gibson Reservoir

- **Inflows are 90% of average**
- **Storage @ 130% of average, 83% full, and 67.5 ft or 59,400 af higher than last year**
- **Storages in Willow Creek & Pishkun Reservoirs are 114% & 112% of average for this time of year**
- **Releasing 470 cfs to Sun River**
- **Expect to fill Gibson in late May or early June and water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year**



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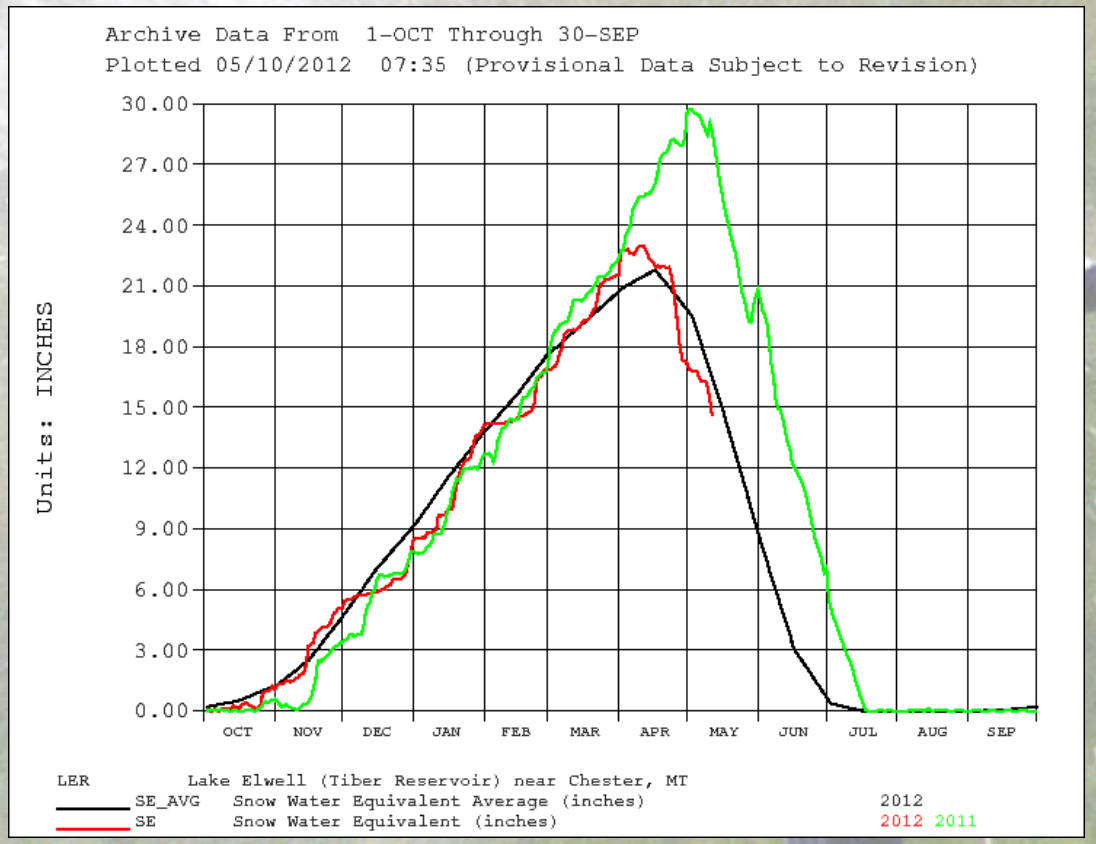
Tiber Reservoir – Lake Elwell

Snowpack @ 89% of average



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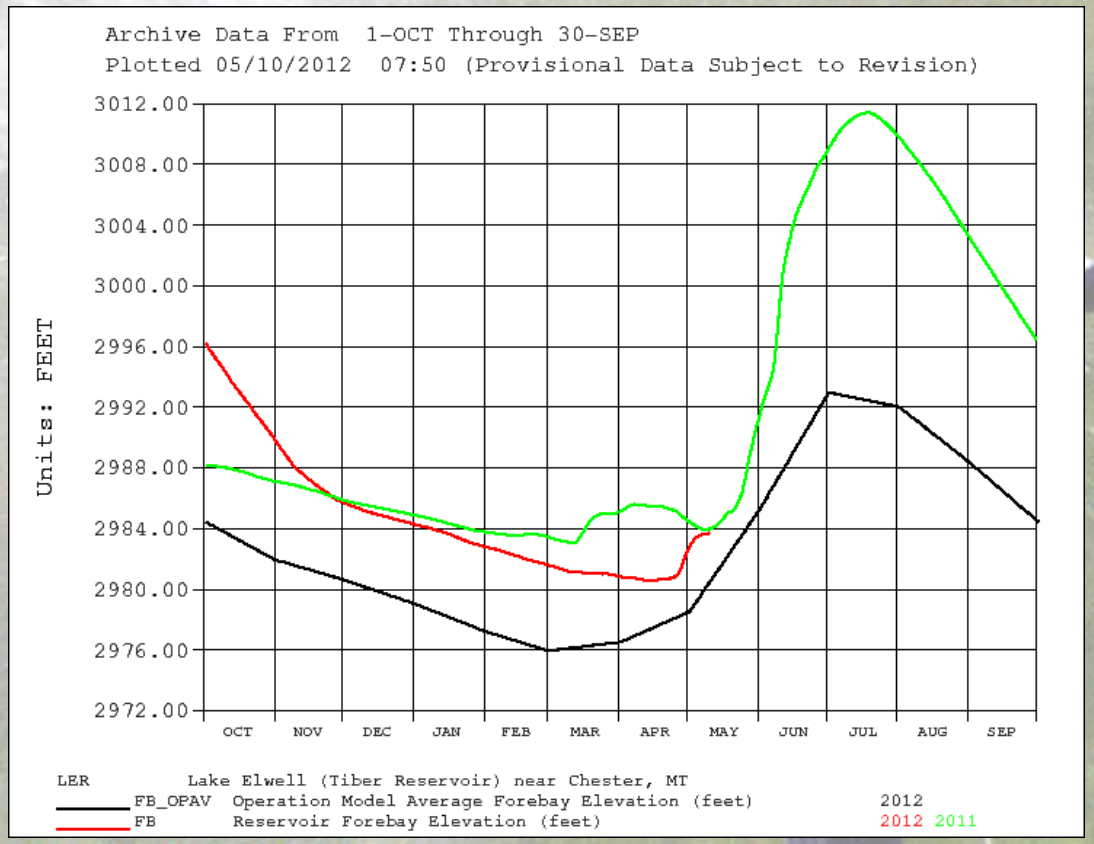
Tiber Reservoir – Lake Elwell

- **Inflows are about 80% of average**
- **Storage @ 106% of average, 84% full and 0.3 ft lower than last year**
- **Maintaining releases at 1,000 cfs in preparation for the spring snowmelt runoff & help with a fish movement study**
- **Tiber is expected to fill to the top of the normal full pool by mid-to-late June**
- **Water supply outlook is good**



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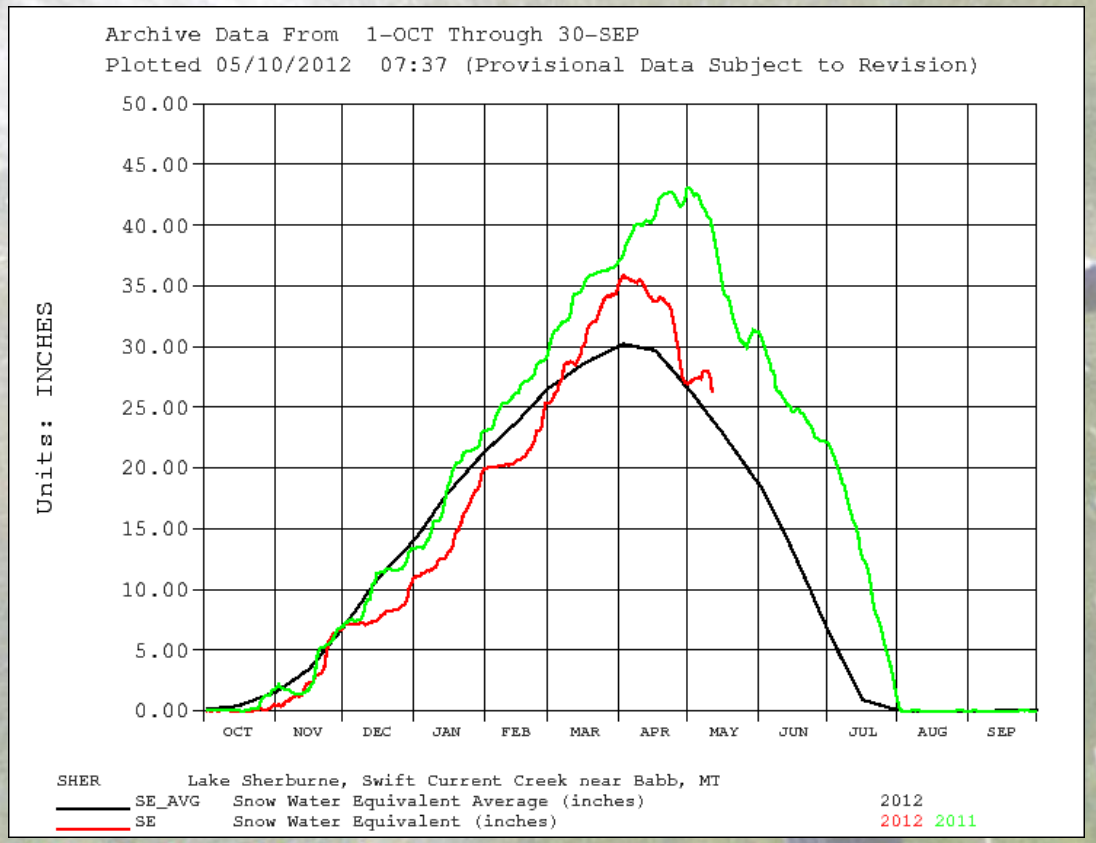
Lake Sherburne

Snowpack @ 109% of average



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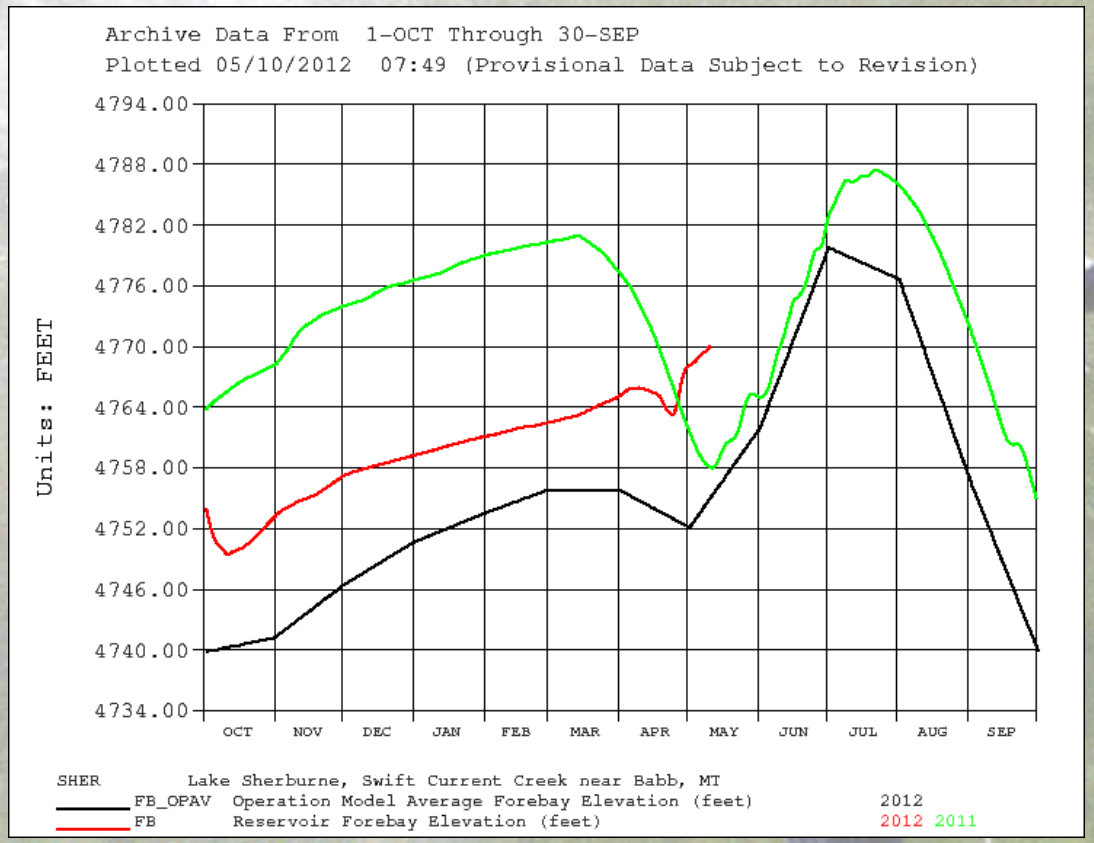
Lake Sherburne

- Inflows are about 55% of average
- Storage @ 179 percent of average, 59% full, and 11.9 feet or 13,800 af higher than last year
- Releases are being maintained at 125 cfs out of Sherburne & diversions to the St. Mary Canal are about 615 cfs
- Water supply outlook for Milk River Project is good & all water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year



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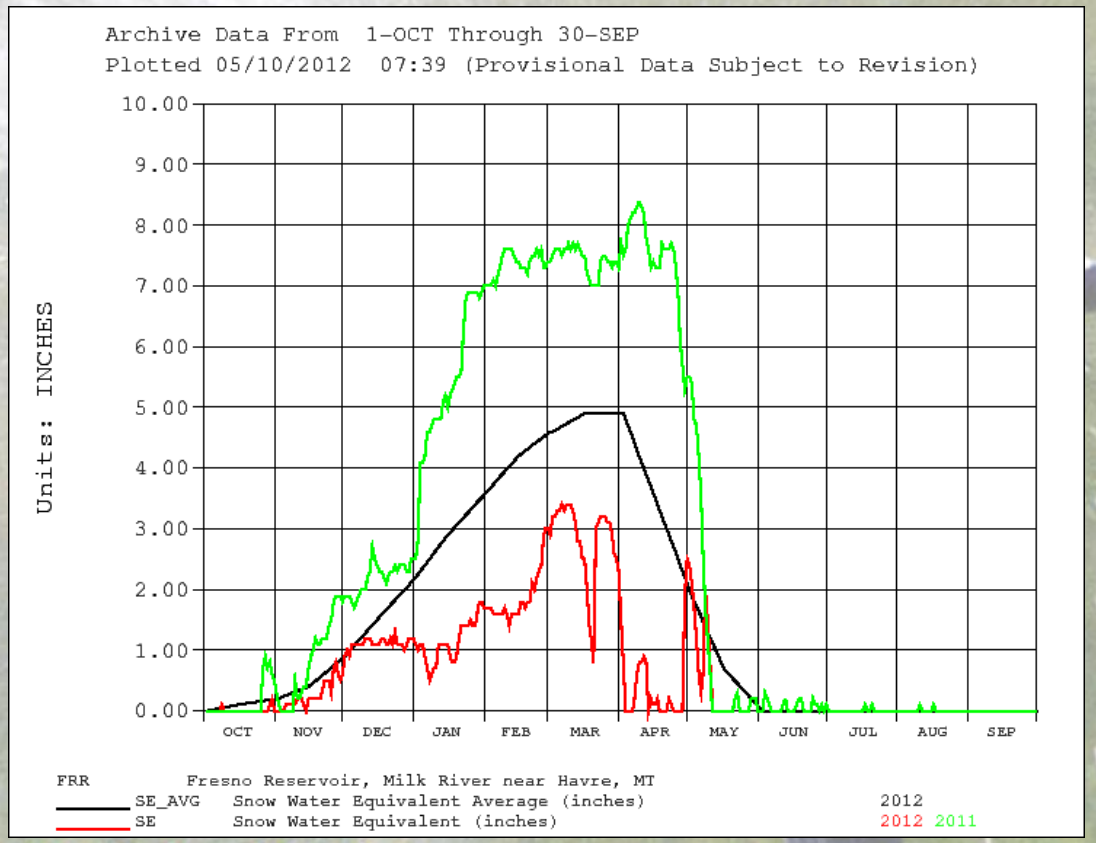
Fresno Reservoir

Snowpack has melted out



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Fresno Reservoir

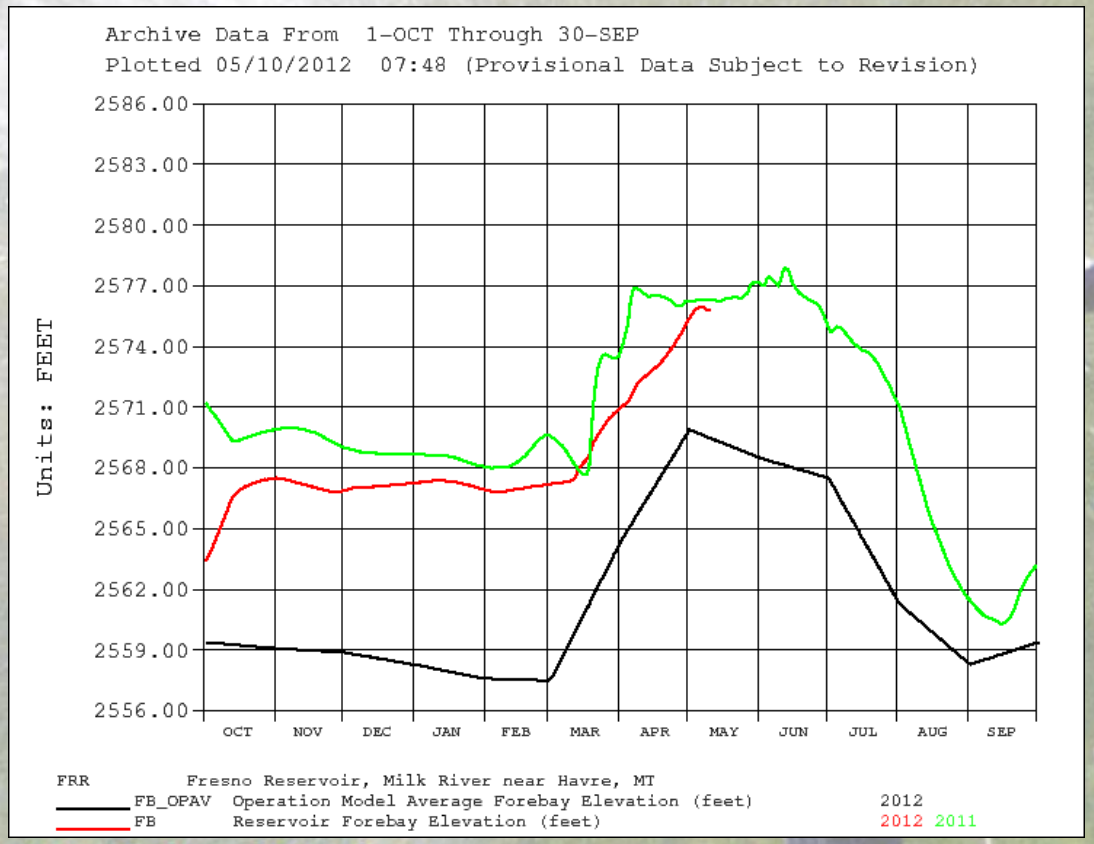
Diversions from St. Mary Basin to Milk River are 615 cfs.

Storage @ 140% of average, 104% full, and 0.5 ft or 2,800 af lower than last year

Currently releasing 1,000 cfs to the Milk River

Storage is expected to slowly drop during May as irrigation demands increase

Water supply outlook is good and all water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year



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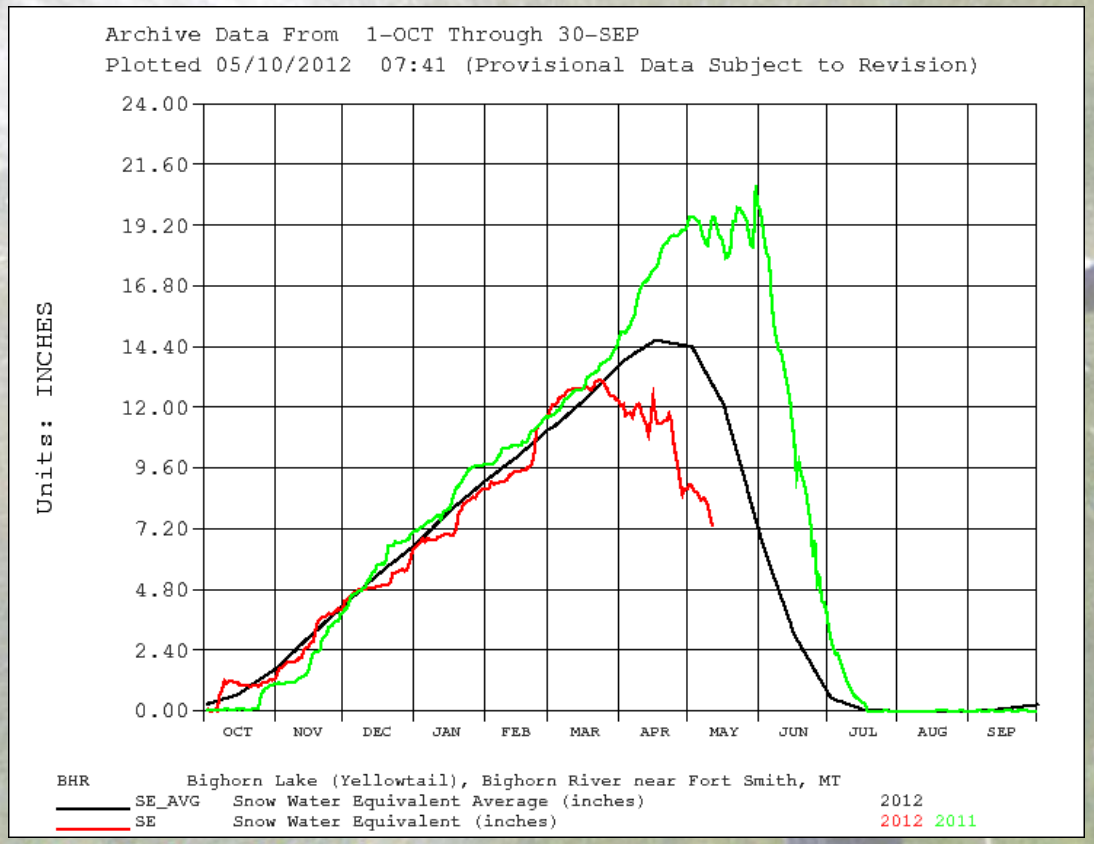
Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

Snowpack @ 57% of average



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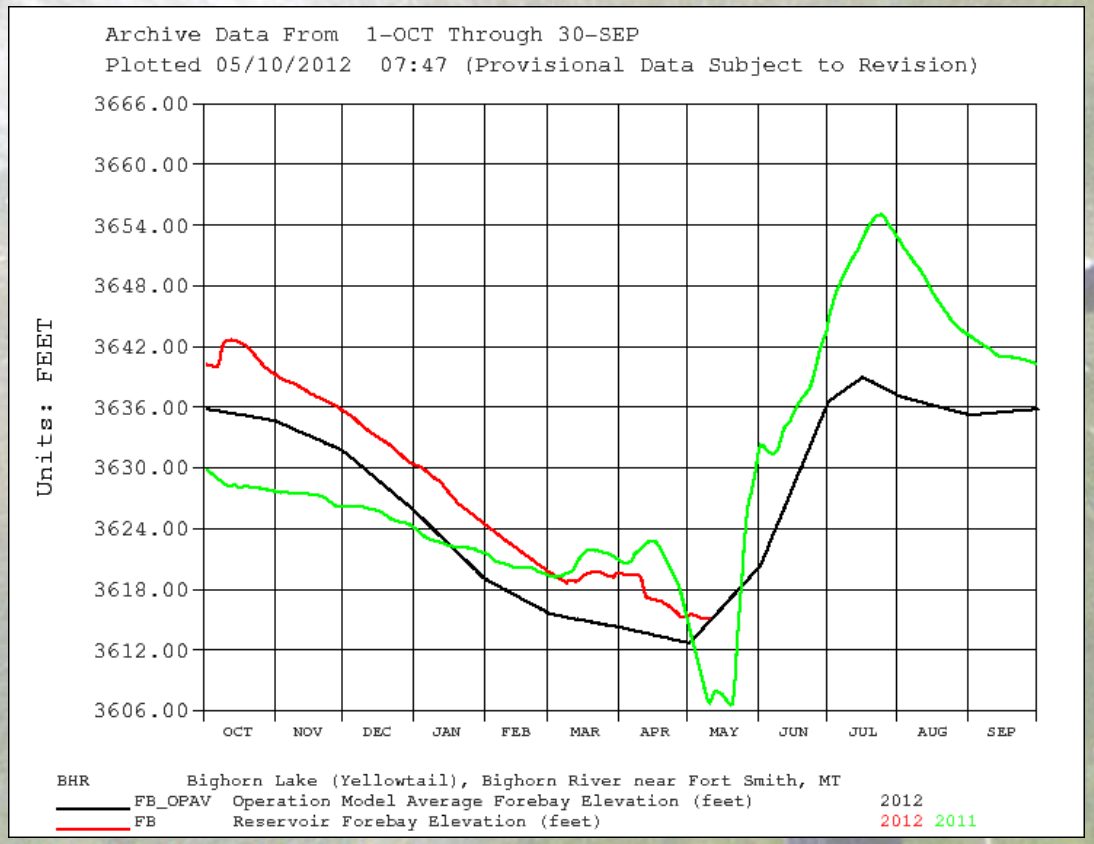
Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

- **Inflow @ about 78% of average**
- **Storage @ 100% of average, 78% full, and 8.0 feet higher than last year**
- **Releases have been reduced to 2,000 cfs to Bighorn River – canal releases are about 420 cfs**
- **Expect Bighorn Lake to fill to within 5-6 feet of the normal full pool level in early July**
- **Water supply outlook is about 60% of average**



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BIGHORN LAKE CURRENT CONDITIONS

Bighorn River Flushing Flow

April 9-12, 2012

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BIGHORN LAKE CURRENT CONDITIONS

Bighorn River Flushing Flow – April 9-12, 2012

Date	Time	Gage Ht.	Flow
9-Apr-12	08:00am	61.06	4000
9-Apr-12	01:00pm	61.63	5000
9-Apr-12	06:00pm	62.14	6000
10-Apr-12	08:00am	62.60	7000
10-Apr-12	08:00pm	62.14	6000
11-Apr-12	08:00am	61.72	5170
11-Apr-12	02:00pm	61.26	4330
11-Apr-12	08:00pm	60.73	3500
12-Apr-12	08:00am	60.30	2880

15,233 acre-feet

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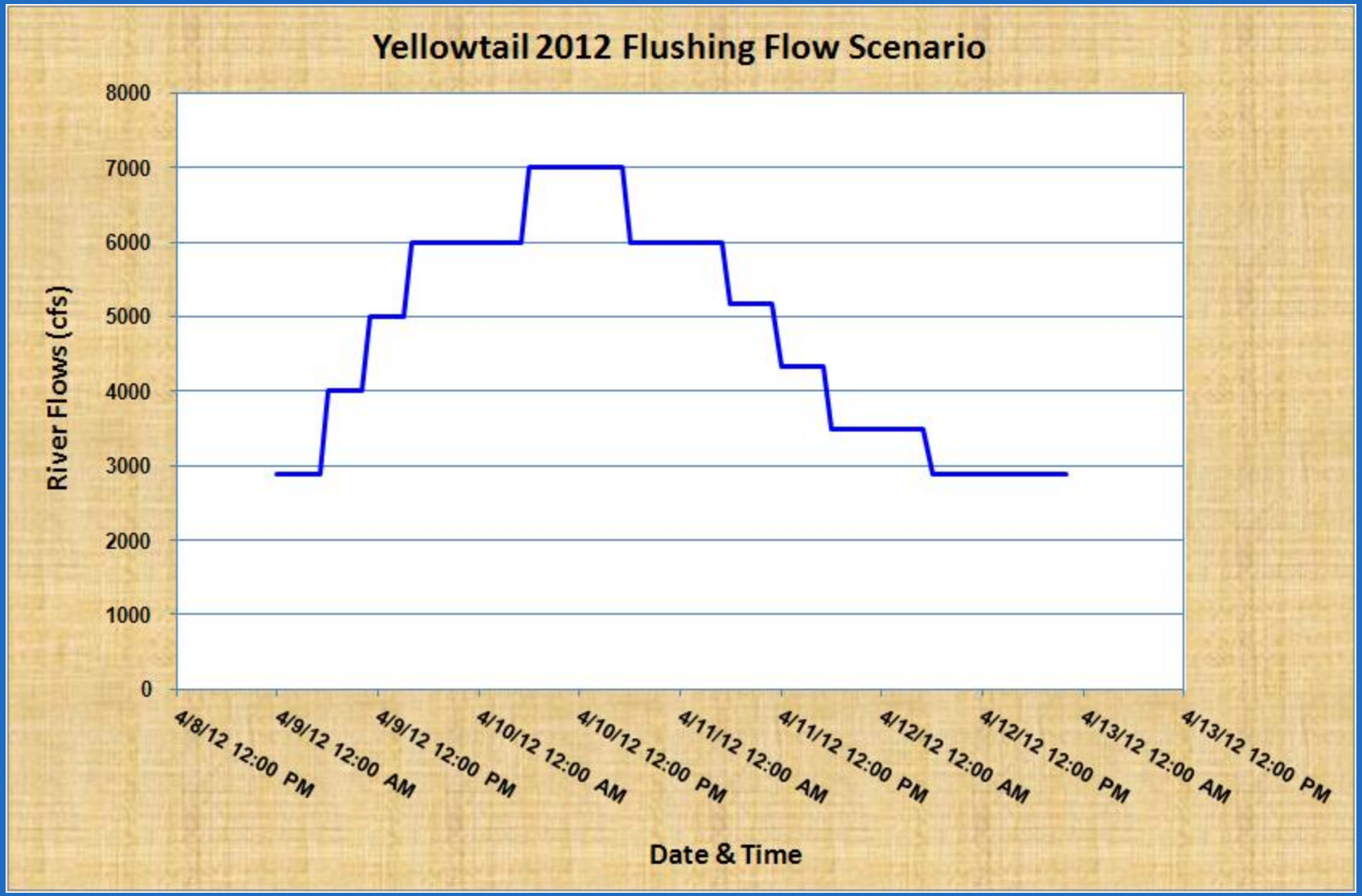
BIGHORN LAKE CURRENT CONDITIONS

Bighorn River Flushing Flow – April 9-12, 2012



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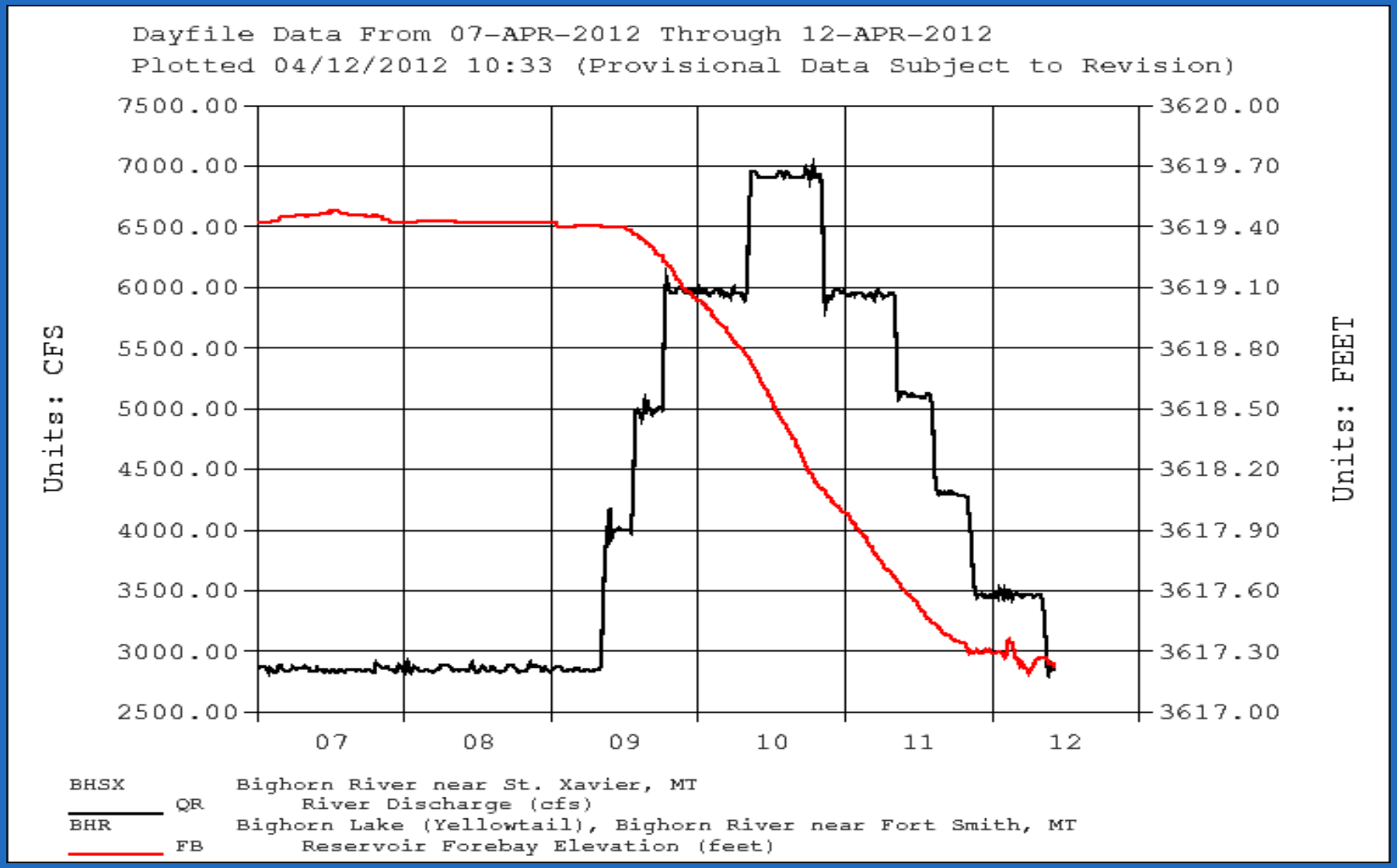
BIGHORN LAKE CURRENT CONDITIONS

Bighorn River Flushing Flow – April 9-12, 2012



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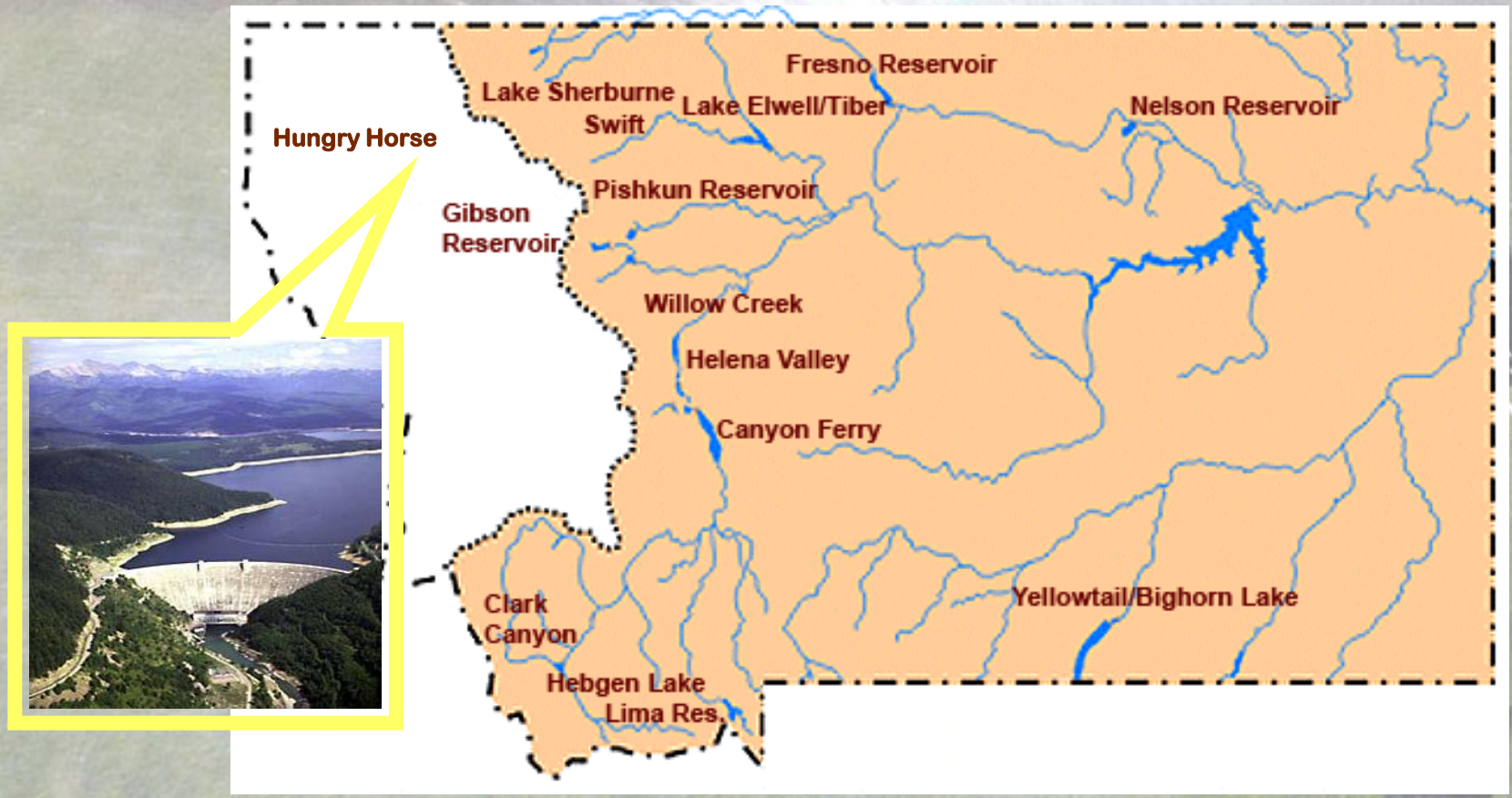

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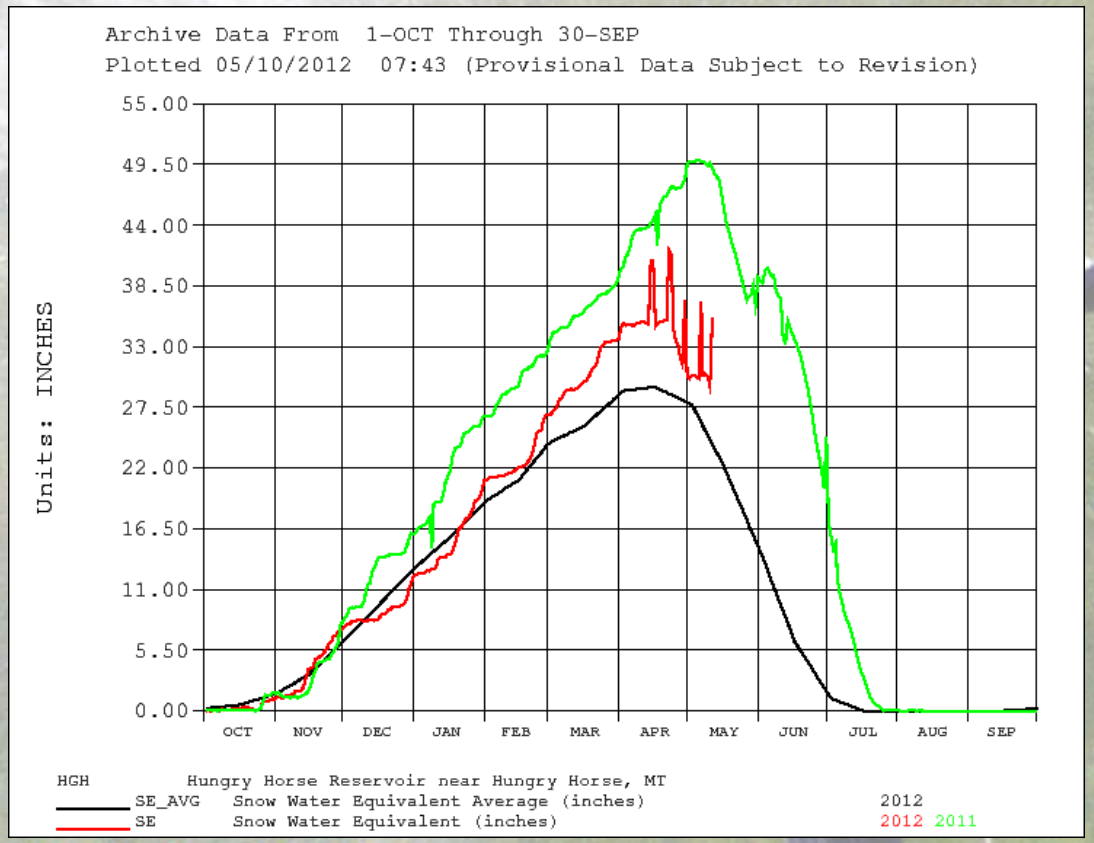
Hungry Horse Reservoir

Snowpack @ 119% of average



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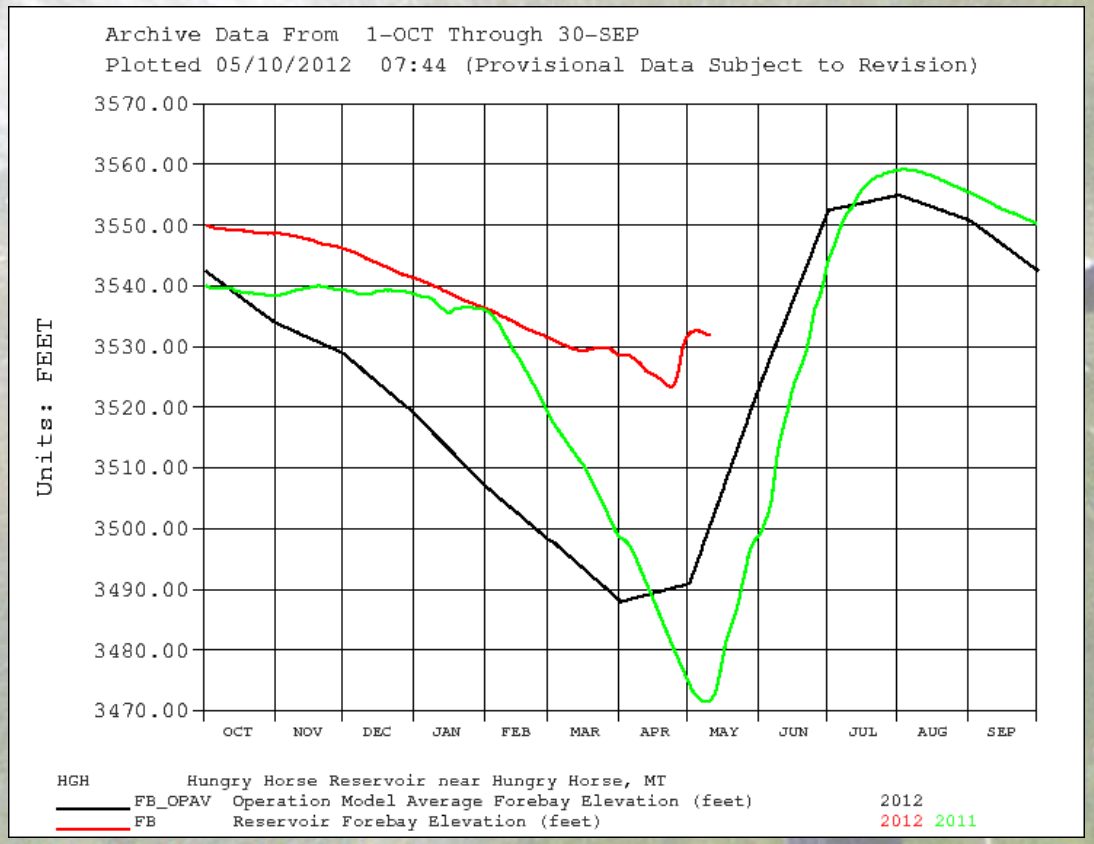
Hungry Horse Reservoir

- **Storage @ 160% of average & 82% full**
- **Releasing 9,200 cfs to the South Fork of the Flathead River**
- **Plan are to continue evacuating storage until mid May and then allow Hungry Horse to gradually fill by mid to late July**



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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROJECTS
Current Conditions - May 10, 2012
Acre-Feet

RESERVOIR NAME	CONTENT KAF	% OF AVG	SNOW WATER CONTENT	% OF AVG	MAY-JULY KAF FORECAST	% OF AVG
Clark Canyon	174,300	108	4.57	37	29	33
Canyon Ferry	1,640,700	109	11.22	74	1,250	79
Gibson	80,300	130	5.20	62	362	91
Lake Elwell	772,900	106	14.57	89	378	109
Lake Sherburne	38,900	179	26.20	109	94	102
Fresno Reservoir	96,900	140	0.00	0	59	131
Bighorn Lake	795,100	100	7.30	57	600	61

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Summary of Reservoir Conditions

- **Reservoirs are being operated conservatively to assure the reservoirs of filling and meeting project benefits this year.**
- **All reservoirs are at above normal pool levels for this time of year.**
- **All Reclamation water users are expected to receive full water supplies this year.**
- **At this time, no major changes in operations at Reclamation reservoirs are anticipated. Reclamation will continue to closely monitor hydrologic and climatic conditions and will be prepared to make the necessary changes as needed.**

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Reclamation's Internet Website

http://www.usbr.gov/gp/water/

- near real-time data available through the HYDROMET data system
- summaries and plots of historical data
- annual reservoir operating plan publication
- monthly water supply reports
- project data
- snow plots
- links to related internet sites

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